

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant places this application in condition for immediate allowance.

Specifically, to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application and without commenting on the substantive merits of the Examiner's rejections or the Decision from the Board of Appeals, Applicant rewrites allowable claims 3 and 12 into their independent form including the intervening claims. Allowable claim 3 is now claim 1 and allowable claim 12 is now claim 9. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to now allow claims 1 and 9. Claims 2, 3, 11, and 12 have been canceled for conformity therewith and claims 6-8 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 4, 5, 10, and 13 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on claim 1 and claim 14 is patentable by virtue of its dependency on claim 9.

Applicant is not conceding in this application that original claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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